

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

16624

DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

APPROVED BY:NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

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R 262258Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096575

FOL SECSTATE 096575 SENT ACTION TEHRAN ABU DHABI ALGIERS BEIRUT
BRASILIA CARACAS DHAHRAN DOHA APRIL 25; REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096575

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT4 PRODUCER/CONSUMER PREPCON: ROLE OF INDEXATION

REFERENCE: TEHRAN 3572

1. AS CORRECTLY STATED IN REFTTEL, THE PREPCON COLLAPSED
OVER THE FUNDAMENTAL
QUESTION OF WHETHER THE FORMAL
CONFERENCE SHOULD FOCUS ON ENERGY OR GIVE EQUAL TREATMENT
TO OTHER ECONOMIC ISSUES, SUCH AS RAW MATERIALS AND REFORM
OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM. DESPITE INTENSIVE
BARGAINING, THE TWO SIDES COULD NOT COMPROMISE THEIR
DIFFERENCES OVER THIS ISSUE.

2. THE MANNER IN WHICH INDEXATION SHOULD BE TREATED ON
THE AGENDA WAS ONE OF SEVERAL OTHER MAJOR ISSUES THAT WERE
NOT RESOLVED. THE OPEC/LDC GROUP INSISTED ON SPECIFIC
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AGENDA REFERENCES TO INDEXING OF OIL AND RAW MATERIAL

PRICES AND FINANCIAL ASSETS. IN ITS FIRST PROPOSED DRAFT (PARIS 9292), ENERGY AND OTHER RAW MATERIALS WERE INCLUDED UNDER THE GENERAL "RAW MATERIALS" CATEGORY, WHICH CONTAINED A SUB-ITEM, "REVALORIZATION AND PROTECTION OF PURCHASING POWER OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' EXPORT EARNINGS." THE AGENDA ITEM "FINANCIAL FLOWS: INVESTMENTS IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES" CONTAINED A SUB-ITEM, "PROTECTION OF THE REAL VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS." IN SUBSEQUENT OPEC/LDC

DRAFT AGENDAS; THE LANGUAGE FOR INDEXING FINANCIAL ASSETS REMAINED UNCHANGED. THE DESCRIPTIVE SECTION FOR THE ENERGY ITEM CONCLUDED WITH, ".9. INCLUDING THE PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE PURCHASING POWER OF ENERGY EXPORTS EARNINGS;" THE SEPARATE RAW MATERIALS ITEM HAD IDENTICAL LANGUAGE MINUS THE WORD "ENERGY". (AT ONE POINT, THE HEAD OF THE IRANIAN DELEGATION TOLD MEMBER OF US DELEGATION THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS FROM SHAH THAT "INDEXATION" AND "INFLATION" HAD TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE CONFERENCE OR THERE WAS NO USE HOLDING IT; REFERENCE TO INDEXATION WAS APPARENTLY RELATED TO OIL.)

3. THE US, EC AND JAPANESE DELEGATIONS OBJECTED TO THE LANGUAGE OF THESE PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS. WE STRESSED THAT WE DID NOT OBJECT TO SUCH TOPICS BEING RAISED AT THE FORMAL CONFERENCE, BUT WE MAINTAINED THAT THE AGENDA LANGUAGE SHOULD BE NEUTRAL IN TONE AND NOT TRY TO PREDETERMINE ANY CONCLUSION THAT MIGHT BE REACHED. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, WE PROPOSED THAT THE AGENDA ITEMS ON BOTH "ENERGY" AND "OTHER RAW MATERIALS" INCLUDE REFERENCE TO, "ISSUES RELATED TO EXPORT EARNINGS". THIS PROPOSAL WAS REJECTED BY THE SEVEN. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE IN THIS REGARD THAT IN THE EYES OF OPEC/LDC REPRESENTATIVES THE AGENDA TENDED TO TAKE ON THE AURA OF A POLITICAL DOCUMENT, RATHER THAN A DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE CONFERENCE.

4. IN DISCUSSING THE PREPCON WITH GOI OFFICIALS, YOU SHOULD STRESS OUR CONVICTION THAT THE MEETING WAS USEFUL. IT PERMITTED ALL PARTICIPANTS TO GAIN GREATER CONFIDENTIAL

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COMPREHENSION OF THE OTHERS' VIEWS, WHICH WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS WE ALL REASSESS OUR OWN POSITIONS IN THE WEEKS AHEAD. WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENTING A PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE AND REGARD THE CURRENT RECESS OF TALKS AS ONLY A TEMPORARY INTERRUPTION.

5. YOU SHOULD REINFORCE THE VIEW THAT THE PREPCON

FAILED BECAUSE OF BASIC DIFFERENCES AS TO THE TYPE OF CONFERENCE DESIRED. WE ARE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH ALL ISSUES RAISED BY THE SEVEN IN APPROPRIATE FORA, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE MUST DEAL PRIMARILY WITH ENERGY AND RELATED ISSUES IF REAL PROGRESS IS TO BE MADE. ON THE ISSUE OF INDEXATION, YOU SHOULD DRAW ON PARA 3 ABOVE, INDICATING THAT WE DO NOT OBJECT TO THIS TOPIC BEING RAISED AT THE CONFERENCE UNDER A GENERAL AGENDA HEADINGSUCH AS "ISSUES RELATED TO EXPORT EARNINGS."

6. YOU COULD CONCLUDE BY STATING THAT, WHILE MULTILATERAL DIALOGUE IS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL, WE WANT TO PRESS FORWARD WITH OUR BILATERAL DIALOGUE WHICH HAS ALREADY DEMONSTRATED ITS ADVANTAGES TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

7. FYI - UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON DISCUSSED WITH VICE FINANCE MINISTER MEHRAN ON APRIL 23 AN EARLY RESCHEDULING OF ROBINSON'S VISIT TO TEHRAN. END FYI. KISSINGER
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, MEETING AGENDA, RAW MATERIALS, MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE096575
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750146-0735
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750415/aaaaanzc.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TEHRAN 3572
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRODUCER/CONSUMER PREPCON: ROLE OF INDEXATION
TAGS: ENRG, IR
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006